wherein said bottom side of said panel may be abutted against an upper side of the protective covering and said spikes driven into a ground surface such that said device secures the protective covering to the ground surface.

Claim 2 (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) The securing device of claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein a portion of said panel positioned within said peripheral edge comprises a resiliently elastic mesh material.

4. (original) The securing device of claim 1, wherein said elongate members are spaced from each other.

5. (currently amended) The securing device of claim ~~2~~ 4, wherein each of said elongate members is flexible.

6. (original) The securing device of claim 5, wherein each of said elongate members is resiliently elastic.

7. (original) The securing device of claim 6, wherein said plurality of elongate members including at least four elongate members.

8. (original) The securing device of claim 1, wherein each of said elongate members is flexible.

9. (original) The securing device of claim 8, wherein each of said elongate members is resiliently elastic.

10. (original) The securing device of claim 9, wherein said plurality of elongate members including at least four elongate members.

11. (original) A securing device for selectively preventing movement of a rose protective covering, said device including:

a flexible panel, said panel having a top side, a bottom side, and a peripheral edge, said peripheral edge comprising an elastomeric loop, a portion of said panel positioned within said peripheral edge comprising a resiliently elastic mesh material;

a plurality of elongate members each having an attached end attached to said peripheral edge and a free end extending away from said panel, said elongate members being spaced from each other, each of said elongate members being flexible, each of said elongate members being resiliently elastic, said plurality of elongate members including at least four elongate members;

a plurality of spikes, each of said spikes being attached to one of said free ends of said elongate members; and

wherein said bottom side of said panel may be abutted against an upper side of the protective covering and said spikes driven into a ground surface such that said device secures the protective covering to the ground surface.

12. (currently amended) A method ~~of securing a rose protective covering to a ground surface comprising the steps of~~ protecting a rose bush comprising the steps of:

providing a protective covering;

positioning the protective covering over the rose bush;

providing a flexible panel, said panel having a top side, a bottom side, and a peripheral edge, said peripheral edge comprising an elastomeric loop, a portion of said panel positioned within said peripheral edge comprising a resiliently elastic mesh material;

providing a plurality of elongate members each having an attached end attached to said peripheral edge and a free end extending away from said panel, said elongate members being spaced from each other, each of said elongate members being flexible, each of said elongate members being resiliently

elastic, said plurality of elongate members including at least four elongate members;

providing a plurality of spikes, each of said spikes being attached to one of said free ends of said elongate members; and

positioning said bottom side of said panel against an upper side of the protective covering and driving said spikes into a ground surface such that said elongate members are in a stretched state.